

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2056
ANSWERED ON:05.05.2016
Mining Lease Application of GMDC
Patil Shri Chandrakant Raghunath

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Gujarat Mineral Development Corporation Limited (GMDC) has submitted mining lease application over an areas of 1369 hectare in Bharuch District which is overlapping with South of Rajpardi lignite block for grant of lignite mining lease in the year 2000 and 2006 when competitive bidding policy was not there;
- (b) if so, whether due to the delayed decision and that too by allowing the tariff based bidding for power causing a big loss to GMDC;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether GMDC would be considered for preferential allotment of these lignite mines, being the earliest applicant when the bidding system was not in place; and
- (e) if so, the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR POWER, COAL AND NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY

(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a) to (c): Proposals from the State Government of Gujarat for prior approval on Gujarat Mineral Development Corporation Limited's mining lease application in the district of Bharuch were received.

Coal and lignite blocks were earlier allocated in pursuance of Section 3 of the Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Act, 1973 as per the procedure of the Screening Committee/Government Dispensation prevailing at that time. The prior approval of the Central Government for grant of mining lease of the allocated coal/lignite blocks were given under the relevant provisions of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957. The above mentioned lignite bearing area in Bharuch District was not allocated by the Ministry of Coal to the Gujarat Mineral Development Corporation Ltd. (GMDCL).

(d): There is no provision/policy for any preferential allocation of lignite blocks.

(e): Does not arise in view of reply given at (d) above.
